RG104 E-1 Box 194

247 PEARL STREET,
NEW YORK CITY.

202 LAKE ST.
CHICAGO, ILL.
1 METAL EXCHANGE BUILDINGS.
LONDON.

All Contracts contingent upon Strikes, Accidents or delays beyond our Control.

RECEIVED
AUG 19 1896
U. S. MINT, PHILA. PA.

Merchant & Co.,

INCORPORATED.

MANUFACTURERS OF BABBITT & ANTI-FRICTION METALS.
BRASS, COPPER AND BRONZE METAL IN ROLLS, SHEETS, TUBES, WIRE, RODS, &c.
517 ARCH ST. 512 & 521 CHERRY ST.

Philadelphia, Aug. 18/96.

Gen. George R. Snowden,

Chief Clerk, U. S. Mint, Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir:-

We are in receipt of your esteemed favor of the 15th inst. in referenve to your order #1150 of June 22nd, for sheet copper and carefully note your remarks. In reply would say that we are well aware that our proposal dated June 8th 1895 on sheet copper for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1896 made you a price of 14 cts. on sheet copper, which is perfectly correct and in accordance with the usages of the trade throughout the United States it is distinctly understood to mean a basis price and by reference to the enclosed list we would point out to you that the basis price of 14 cts. would apply on Hot Rolled Sheets not wider than 36" and not longer than 96", 16 oz. to the sq. ft. and heavier; all wider sheets and lighter sheets than this take the usual extras on the list; for instance, the order in question calls for sheet 40 x 45", which according to the list price is 2 cts. per lb. higher than the basis price or in other words on the basis of our proposal referred to above the correct price for sheets of the width and thickness specified on your order is 16 cts net per lb. as charged, this we have personally explained to your Mr. Mc Lane and it is a fact well understood by all consumers of sheet copper throughout the United States, as well as by every manufacturer in the business. We understand, of course, that all that is required by the government in this instance is simply to understand that the price as charged is the lowest market rate that the same material would be furnished to anyone else, and as a matter of fact the bottom price to-day would be 17 cts., instead of 16 cts. on the above sheets.

It is quite a small matter in this instance, at the same time we feel that we are perfectly correct in our charge in accordance with our proposal, as understood throughout the trade and we trust that this explanation will be sufficient to warrant your passing the voucher for payment.

Yours very truly,

W.A.H.

MERCHANT & CO., INCORPORATED.
Per W. A. Hicks

P. S.
We find that our invoices were mailed back to you last night, through an error, instead of being held to be enclosed with this letter.

Amount Mc Lane
sig chief clerk M.L.B. aug 19/96

RG104 E-1 Box 194

208

Merchant & Co,
Philadelphia
Augt 18th 1896

Reply & explanatory to our letter of 15th inst, about price of Sheet Copper, and hopes the explanation will prove satisfactory and the voucher for payment be passed.

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 194

[Abstract:] Reply & explanation to our letter of 15th instant…

Merchant & Co.,
Philadelphia,
August 18, 1896

Gen. George R. Snowden,
Chief Clerk, U.S. Mint, Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir: -

We are in receipt of your esteemed favor of the 15th inst. in reference to your order #1150 of June 22nd, for sheet copper and carefully note your remarks. In reply would say that we are well aware that our proposal dated June 8th 1895 on sheet copper for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1896 made you a price of 14 cts. on sheet copper, which is perfectly correct and in accordance with the usages of the trade throughout the United States it is distinctly understood to mean a basis price and by reference to the enclosed list we would point out to you that the basis price of 14 cts. would apply on Hot Rolled Sheets not wider than 36" and not longer than 96", 16 oz. to the sq. ft. and heavier; all wider sheets and lighter sheets than this take the usual extras on the list; for instance, the order in question calls for sheet 40 x 45", which according to the list price is 2 cts. per lb. higher than the basis price or in other words on the basis of our proposal referred to above the correct price for sheets of the width and thickness specified on your order is 16 cts. net per lb. as charged, this we have personally explained to your Mr. McLane and it is a fact well understood by all consumers of sheet copper throughout the United States, as well as by every manufacturer in the business. We understood, of course, that all that is required by the government in this instance is simply to understand that the price as charges is the lowest market rate that the same material would be furnished to anyone else, and as a matter of fact the bottom price to-day would be 17 cts., instead of 16 cts. on the above sheets.

It is quite a small matter in this instance, at the same time we fed that we are perfectly correct in our charge in accordance with our proposal, as understood throughout the trade and we trust that this explanation will be sufficient to warrant your passing the voucher for payment.

Yours very truly,
Merchant & Co., Incorporation.
Per W.M.A. Hinds

P.S.
We find that our invoices were mailed back to you last night, through an error, instead of being held to be enclosed with this letter.

[Noted at bottom:]

Answered MacLaue
Sig. Chief Clerk M.L.B. Aug. 19 /96